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**IANDIORIO & TESKA**

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January 5, 2007

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUBJECT:**    **Applicant:**    Mark A. Ealey  
                  **Serial No:**    10/730,412  
                  **Filed:**        December 8, 2003  
                  **For:**         INTEGRATED ACTUATOR MENISCUS  
                                  MIRROR  
                  **Examiner:**    Shafer, Ricky D.  
                  **Group:**        2872  
                  **Docket No:**    XIN-101J

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Dear Sir:

Enclosed are a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal form PTO/SB/30, a Preliminary Amendment, and a Statement of Substance of the Examiner's Interview held on December 21, 2006. Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$395.00 for the RCE filing fee for a small entity required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e), and a Petition for Extension of Time Within the First Month including a check for \$60.00 to file an extension of time. Also enclosed is a check in the amount of \$100.00 for one (1) new independent claim.

If for any reason this Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal is found to be INCOMPLETE, or if at any time it appears that a TELEPHONE CONFERENCE with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts, at (781) 890-5678.

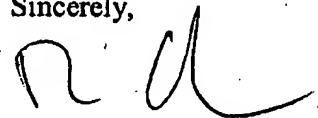
If any payment during prosecution is found to be incorrect, please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to my Deposit Account No. 09-0002. A copy of this letter is enclosed for use by the Finance Branch in the event that it is necessary to make any charge or credit to my deposit account.

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In addition, pursuant to Rule 1.136(a)(3), the Office is hereby authorized to treat any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Also, any request or Petition for an Extension of Time notwithstanding an inadvertent reference in the Petition to a shorter period of time is to be treated as requesting the appropriate length of time.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of the foregoing by returning the enclosed self-addressed postcard.

Sincerely,



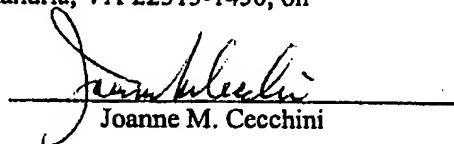
Roy J. Coleman  
Reg. No. 48,863

RJC/jmc  
Enclosures

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 5, 2007



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Joanne M. Cecchini

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

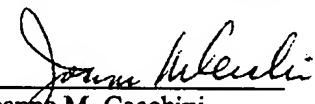
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Commissioner for Patents  
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA on January 5, 2007.

  
Joanne M. CecchiniSTATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

On December 21, 2006, an Examiner Interview was conducted between Examiner Shafer and Mr. Roy Coleman regarding a proposed amendment to claim 1 of the subject application. During the telephonic interview, Examiner Shafer and Mr. Coleman discussed a proposed amendment to claim 1 which was amended to include some of the features recited in claims 5 and 6. The Examiner indicated that the proposed amendment would appear to distinguish over the prior art of Sawicki and Dongi *et al.* However, the Examiner indicated that additional language was needed to clarify intersecting in the proposed amendment to distinguish over Fuschetto. Accordingly, it was agreed to add the language "wherein the plurality of intersecting major ribs meet and cross each other" to the proposed claim 1. The Examiner indicated that the

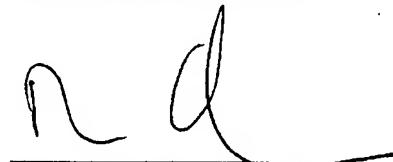
proposed claim 1, with this amendment, would have a high probability of distinguishing over all of the cited references. Additionally, the Examiner indicated amending the originally proposed claim 1 to include the features of claims 8 or 11 would also have a high probability of distinguishing over Sawicki, Dongi *et al.*, and Fuschetto.

At the end of the telephone conference, Examiner Shafer indicated that the proposed amendments discussed above would likely put the application in condition for allowance. Mr. Coleman indicated that a final consultation with the applicant was needed, and thereafter Mr. Coleman would file a Request for a Continued Examination with a Preliminary Amendment including the changes to the claims discussed above.

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for his time and attention for the interview.

If for any reason this Statement is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned or his associates, collect in Waltham, Massachusetts at (781) 890-5678.

Respectfully submitted,



Roy J. Coleman  
Reg. No. 48,863